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Abstract

An irradiation apparatus particularly well suited to the irradiation of food at or near the point of consumption includes an irradiation chamber, one or more ionizing radiation sources such as x-ray tubes, and a rotating food support. In one embodiment, one or more x-ray sources are disposed axially in relation to the support. In another, one or more x-ray sources are disposed radially in relation to the support. The position of the x-ray sources in relation to the food may also be varied depending on the size of the food.